

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for grafting fat cells from a first portion of a human patient's body to a second part of the body comprising the steps of:

5       a) selecting a receptive site on the skin of a patient's body and identifying an area surrounding the receptive site;

10      b) subjecting the area surrounding the receptive site and including the receptive site to an externally applied reduced pressure until the patient's skin is stretched a predetermined amount;

15      c) selecting a donor site on the skin of the patient at an area remote from the receptive site;

20      d) making a puncture at the donor site and removing a mass of fat cells from the donor site of the patient's body;

25      e) inserting the mass of fat cells under the patient's skin at the receptive site; and

30      f) drawing body fluids into the mass of fat cells by subjecting the closed wound area to a reduced pressure.

2. A method for grafting fat cells from a first part of human patient's body to a second part of the body

according to claim 1 which includes the step of pulsating the reduced pressure in step f at a frequency of between 5 about 70 cycles per minute to about 1 cycle per 5 minute interval.

3. A method for grafting fat cells from a first part of a human patient's body to a second part of the body according to claim 2 which includes the step of monitoring the patient's heartbeat and matching the 5 frequency of the pulsating reduced pressure to the frequency of the heartbeat.

4. A method for grafting fat cells from a first part of a human patient's body to a second part of the body according to claim 2 which includes the step of subjecting the closed wound area to the pulsating reduced 5 pressure until new blood vessels extend into the mass of fat cells.

5. A method for stretching the skin of a human patient after a surgical procedure which produces a wound area, said method comprising the steps of:

selecting an area of a patient's skin in a wound 5 area for stretching;

subjecting the selected area of skin to a reduced pressure; and

10 pulsating the reduced pressure between periods of reduced pressure and periods of relaxation until the skin has stretched a predetermined amount.

6. A method for stretching the skin of a human patient after a surgical procedure which produces a wound area according to claim 5 which includes the step of pulsating the reduced pressure at a frequency of between 5 about 70 cycles per minute to about 1 cycle per 5 minute period.

7. A method for stretching the skin of a human patient after a surgical procedure which produces a wound area according to claim 5 wherein said wound area is a breast and in which said pulsating reduced pressure forms 5 a nipple on the breast.

8. An apparatus for drawing fluids into a mass of transplanted fat cells comprising:

5 a variable pulsating vacuum device which produces a rhythmic action of reduced pressure and relaxation, means for regulating the pulsating rhythmic action between a frequency of about 50 to about 80 cycles per minute;

10 concave means for applying the pulsating vacuum to an external area of a patient's body surrounding a transplanted mass of fat cells and means for operatively connecting said concave means to said variable pulsating vacuum device,

means for monitoring the heart rate of the patient and means for matching the frequency of the pulsating rhythmic action to that of the heart rate.

9. An apparatus for drawing fluids into a mass of transplanted fat cells according to claim 8 in which said means for monitoring the heart rate of the patient and means for matching the frequency of the pulsating rhythmic action to that of the heart includes a computer.

10. An apparatus for drawing fluids into a mass of transplanted fat cells according to claim 9 in which the apparatus includes a pressure cuff for applying the pulsating vacuum to an external area of a patient's body.

11. A method for grafting fat cells from a first portion of a human patient's body to a second part of the body comprising the steps of:

a) selecting a receptive site on the skin of a patient's body and identifying an area surrounding the receptive site;

b) selecting a donor site on the skin of the patient at an area remote from the receptive site;

c) making a puncture at the donor site and removing a mass of fat cells from the donor site of the patient's body;

- d) inserting the mass of fat cells under the patient's skin at the receptive site; and
- e) drawing body fluids into the mass of fat cells by subjecting the closed wound area to a reduced pressure.

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